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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Applicants : Rhodes et al.
Serial No. : 09/008,531
Filed : January 16, 1998
Title : METHOD OF MAKING A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE HAVING
IMPROVED CONTACTS
Docket No. : MIO0012V2
Examiner : Trinh, Michael Manh
Art Unit : 2822

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Julie G. Cope
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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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AMENDMENT

This amendment is being filed in response to the office action mailed on July 30, 2002. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and arguments below.

CLEAN VERSION OF THE CLAIMS

A version of the claims showing the markings is provided in a separate Appendix attached to this paper.

In the Claims

31. (Twice Amended) A process for making a semiconductor device comprising:
- providing a substrate having at least one semiconductor layer;
 - forming an opening in said at least one semiconductor layer, wherein said opening includes sidewalls;
 - forming a conductive layer over said at least one semiconductor layer and said opening so that said conductive layer has a topography that includes a substantially vertical component;
 - forming an overlayer over said conductive layer;
 - forming a contact in said overlayer and in said vertical component disposed adjacent to and contacting said vertical component; and

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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**TO: Examiner Michael Manh Trinh, Art Unit 2822****Company: Assistant Commissioner for Patents**
Fax No.: 703-872-9318**FROM: Julie G. Cope****Date: October 24, 2002****Pages: 8 (including cover page)****Our Docket No.: MIO 0012 V2****Transmission No.: _____***Patents, Trademarks and Related Matters*
Killworth, Gottman, Hagan & Schaeff, LLP**One Dayton Centre**
One South Main Street, Suite 500
Dayton, Ohio 45402-2023**937.223.2050**
Fax | 937.223.0724
E-mail | jghs@kghs.com**FAX COPY RECEIVED****OCT 24 2002****TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800**

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